

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /051 W

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P 232210Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7390

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: CANCELLATION OF SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: STATE 92197

1. PRIVATE REACTION TO CANCELLATION OF SECRETARY'S L.A. VISIT HAS RANGED FROM SYMPATHETIC DISAPPOINTMENT TO SOMEWHAT CYNICAL CRITICISM. FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA TOLD AMBASSADOR YESTERDAY THAT CANCELLATION MADE A "VERY BAD IMPRESSION." HE LINKED REACTION ON THIS SUBJECT TO EARLIER USG REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT OF OASGA FROM SCHEDULED DATE.

2. OTHER EMBASSY CONTACTS IN FOREIGN SECRETARIAT AND AMONG L.A. DIPLOMATS HAVE EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING OF REASONS FOR CANCELLATION OF VISIT BUT THERE IS IN THEIR REACTION ALSO AN UNDERLYING NOTE OF CRITICISM. ONE COMMENT MADE TO EMBOFF WAS THAT BETWEEN MIDDLE EAST AND SEA, LATIN AMERICA ALWAYS COMES LAST.

3. PRESENT REACTION IS RELATED OF COURSE TO THAT ON EARLIER CANCELLATION OF PERU AND CHILE VISITS. MOST PRIVATE AND PUBLIC REACTION ON THAT OCCASION IN MEXICO WAS THAT REAL REASON FOR CANCELLATION WAS TO AVOID POLITICAL PROBLEMS OF VISIT TO CHILE. THIS ELEMENT OF DISBELIEF -- HOWEVER UNJUSTIFIED -- MAY HAVE CARRIED OVER TO PRESENT CASE.

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4. PRESS COVERATE OF CANCELLATION HAS BEEN MODERATE TO SCANTY. ONLY EDITORIAL COMMENT THUS FAR IS IN INCREAS-  
INGLY GOM-ORIENTED EL SOL WHICH SAYS: "...NOW (THE VISIT) IS DEFINITELY CANCELLED, REGARDLESS OF THE FACT THAT THE OASGA IS TO MEET SOON, ON MAY 8. CERTAINLY THE SITUATION IS PARTICULARLY CRITICAL FOR KISSINGER. STILL, THE INDOCHINA CRISIS IS NOT SOMETHING WHICH SHOULD HAVE REPERCUSSIONS ON THE PROBLEMS OF OUR HEMISPHERE OR REFLECT UPON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN LATIN AMERICA AND THE U.S. DURING THE KISSINGER VISIT MANY SITUATIONS WHICH NEED STUDY AND ATTENTION COULD HAVE BEEN RAISED. WITH THE CANCELLATION OF THE VISIT NOT A FEW PROBLEMS WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN VENTILATED HAVE BEEN POSTPONED SINE DIE... BECAUSE THE U.S. CONTINUES TO CONSIDER L.A. AS ITS BACK-YARD. IN L.A. CIRCLES IT IS RIGHTLY SAID: 'IT IS EVIDENT THAT IBERO-AMERICA HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE THE LAST ITEM AMONG U.S. CONCERNS.' PERHAPS IT IS WORTH ACKING: IS IT NOT PREFERABLE THAT A USELESS VISIT BE CANCELLED IN WHICH MANY TALK BUT ONE, KISSINGER, HEARS BUT DOES NOT ALWAYS LISTEN?" JOVA

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